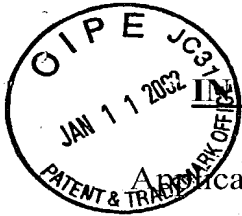


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531 Rec'd PCT/PTC 11 JAN 2002  
PATENT



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Malcolm Timothy FROST, Raymond Louis KOENIG,  
Peter James TAIT and Gregory John SHEEHAN

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filing Date:

Examiner:

International Application No.: PCT/AU01/01132

International Filing Date: September 10, 2001

Priority Date Claimed: September 8, 2000

Title: **AMMONIA STORAGE**

Entity Status: Large Entity

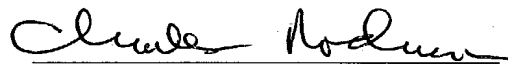
Our Docket: RR-497 PCT/US

**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL Customer Receipt No. EL042404085US in an envelope addressed to:

Box PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
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on January 11, 2002

  
Applicants' Attorney

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**  
**UNDER MPEP 506 TO REDUCE FILING FEES**

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments before calculating the filing fee for  
this application:

Claim 3, change the claim dependency from “claim 1 or claim 2”,

to --claim 1--.

Claim 4, change the claim dependency from “any one of the preceding claims”,

to --claim 1--.

Claim 5, change the claim dependency from “any one of the preceding claims”,

to --claim 1--.

Claim 6, change the claim dependency from “any one of claims 1-4”,

to --claim 1--.

Claim 10, change the claim dependency from “any one of the preceding claims”,

to --claim 9--.

MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

3. A process as claimed in claim 1 [or claim 2] wherein the ammonia is absorbed into the alcohol at ambient pressure.
4. A process as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein the alcohol/ammonia solution is held in the reservoir at ambient pressure.
5. A process as claimed in claim 1 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein the ammonia is absorbed into the alcohol in the reservoir.
6. A process as claimed in claim 1 [any one of claims 1-4] wherein the ammonia is absorbed into the alcohol in a gas scrubber.
10. A process as claimed in claim 9 [any one of the preceding claims] wherein the alcohol is an ammoniation alcohol or a salt containing ammoniation alcohol.

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CLEAN VERSION OF ALL PENDING CLAIMS

1. A process for storing ammonia, the process including the steps of:
  - (a) absorbing ammonia into an alcohol to form an alcohol/ammonia solution; and
  - (b) holding the alcohol/ammonia solution in a reservoir for
- 5 subsequent recovery of ammonia therefrom.
2. A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the alcohol/ammonia solution is saturated with ammonia.
3. A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the ammonia is absorbed into the alcohol at ambient pressure.
4. A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the alcohol/ammonia solution is held in the reservoir at ambient pressure.
5. A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the ammonia is absorbed into the alcohol in the reservoir.
6. A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the ammonia is absorbed into the alcohol in a gas scrubber.
7. A process for recovering ammonia from an alcohol/ammonia solution, the process including the step of heating and/or reducing the pressure of the alcohol/ammonia solution to liberate ammonia therefrom.

8. A process as claimed in claim 7 wherein the alcohol/ammonia solution is heated in a flash reactor or a stripping column.

9. A process for storing and recovering ammonia, the process including the steps of:

(a) absorbing ammonia into an alcohol to form an alcohol/ammonia solution;

5 (b) holding the alcohol/ammonia solution in a reservoir for subsequent recovery of ammonia therefrom; and

(c) heating and/or reducing the pressure of the alcohol/ammonia solution to liberate ammonia therefrom.

10. A process as claimed in claim 9 wherein the alcohol is an ammoniation alcohol or a salt containing ammoniation alcohol.

11. An alcohol/ammonia solution held in a reservoir for subsequent recovery of ammonia therefrom.

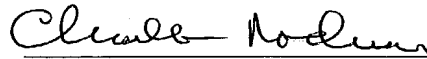
12. An alcohol ammonia solution as claimed in claim 11 wherein the alcohol is an ammoniation alcohol or a salt containing ammoniation alcohol.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are made for the sole purpose of reducing the filing fee of this application by eliminating the multiple claim dependencies.

This Amendment also includes a *Marked-up Version of Amended Claims* and a *Clean Version of All Pending Claims*.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles B. Rodman, Reg. No. 26,798  
Attorney for Applicants

Dated: January 11, 2002

RODMAN & RODMAN  
7 South Broadway  
White Plains, New York 10601

Telephone: (914) 949-7210  
Facsimile: (914) 993-0668

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